

January 22, 2020

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Via SCPSC E-FILING DMS

Re: Joint Petition of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC to Establish a Consolidated Informational Docket for Review and Consideration of Grid Improvement Plans; Docket No. 2019-381-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

This letter constitutes Walmart Inc.'s ("Walmart") response to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina's ("Commission") Directive issued January 15, 2020, requesting input on a procedural schedule and whether requests for intervention are necessary or appropriate.

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DEC") and Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP") (collectively, "Companies") have proposed to establish the above docket solely for informational purposes in order to provide interested parties with information about their Grid Improvement Plans ("GIP"). The Companies do not propose to seek any relief through this docket but instead intend to provide parties with information regarding the underlying costs and proposed recovery for the GIP that the Companies may seek in their *next* general rate proceeding.

As such, from a procedural schedule perspective, Walmart believes that the Commission should direct that this docket remain open until the Companies file a Notice of Intent to File an Application for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs. This will ensure that relevant information may be sought in this docket until such time as the parties are on notice that a general rate case filing is imminent.

Walmart further believes that the Commission could allow interventions in order to provide a clear and orderly way to identify the parties participating in this docket as well as a repository for any discovery requests filed in this action. If there is any dispute concerning the appropriate scope of discovery, it will be helpful if that dispute is resolved within the confines of the Commission's typical structure in this case. Further, to the extent that confidential information is or may be exchanged in this docket, having a defined list of parties who are/may have permission to access such information will ensure its remains confidential.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Walmart believes that parties who were previously granted intervention in either Docket No. 2018-318-E or 2018-319-E should be deemed to have intervened as a matter of right in this proceeding without the need for filing another request for intervention.

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All parties are being served a copy of this document in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE, PLLC

By 

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SUE/sds
Attachment
c: Certificate of Service

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2019-381-E

IN RE: Joint Petition of Duke Energy)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress,)	
LLC to Establish a Consolidated Informational)	
Docket for Review and Consideration of Grid)	
Improvement Plans)	

I hereby certify that I have this day served one (1) copy of the foregoing document upon the following parties to this proceeding via electronic mail and/or first-class mail:

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Dated: January 22, 2020